

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Box et al in view of Wulc et al. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended patentably distinguish over the rejection of record. The device of the Box et al patent is of course well known to Applicants. In that distributed fluid dispensing system, hand-operated valves 30a-c are supplied by solenoids 26a-c and meters 24a-c, the solenoids and meters being located upstream and separately from the dispense valves and well as being separate from the controls 40. Box discloses only on-off switches and solenoids. While Wulc may disclose variable flow valves 24 and 26, one skilled in the art would clearly understand this to mean continuously variable from off to full flow. Wulc discloses only "blend switches" and neither Wulc nor Box discloses switches and valves having first and second discrete non-zero flow positions (off/low/high).

Applicants' invention as claimed locates the switch having at least first and second non-zero flow controlling positions (low and high), the meter and the valve having first and second non-zero flow positions (low and high) all in the hand-operated device. The combination of elements allows quick filling for most of the dispense cycle along with lowered flow at the end and is nowhere shown nor suggested in Box or any of the other references of record. The combination of elements also allows ease of remote control by separating the function of the valve control (the switch) from the valve so that a central controller may augment the system if desired while at the same time using a simple to install hand-operated device.

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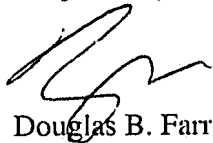
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from off to full flow. Wulc discloses only "blend switches" and neither Wulc nor Box discloses switches and valves having first and second discrete non-zero flow positions (off/low/high).

Accordingly, there is no suggestion in the references of record as to how one would obtain the claimed invention and it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended patentably distinguish therefrom.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments